future for all of us. With these words , Madam, I request all the hon. Members to pass this Bill.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now, I will put the motion to vote :

The question is :

'That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1999-2000 for the purpose of Railways, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 and 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause I, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Madam, I beg to move :

'That the Bill be returned."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I wish there are no accidents. I wish there are no problems in the railways.

MOTION FOR REFERENCE OF THE BILL TO JOINT COMMITTEE

The patents (Second Amendment) Bill, 1999

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): Madam Deputy Chairman, I move: That the Bill further to amend the Patents Act, 1970, be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 30 Members, 10 Members from this House, namely.—

1. Shri T. N. Chaturvedi
2. Dr. L. M. Singhvi
3. Shri Suresh A. Keswani
4. Dr. M. N.Das
5. Dr. Biplab Dasgupta
6. Shri C. P. Thirunavukkarasu
7. Shri J. Chitharanjan
8. Shri K. Kalavenkata Rao
9. Shri Satishchandra Sitaram Pradhan
10. Shri Jayant Kumar Malhotra

And 20 Members from the Lok Sabha;

That in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee, the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of Members of the Joint Committee;

That the Committee shall make a report to this House by the first day of the next Session of the Rajya Sabha;

That in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Select Parliamentary Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Chairman may make; and

That this House recommends to the Lok Sabha that Lok Sabha do join the said Committee and communicate to this House the names of Members to be appointed by Lok Sabha to the Joint Committee."

The question was put and the motion was adopted

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

Points arising out of Answer to Starred Question N0.42, given on 1st December, 1999, regarding power shortage

DR. RAJA RAMANNA (Nominated): Madam, I raise a discussion on